REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner has rejected independent claim 1 over `823 (Cleary et al) in view of `173 (Leenders et al).

The Examiner has stated on page 3, lines 1 to 8 of the Office Action dated in February 22, 2005 that:

> "Cleary et al. differ from the claim of the present invention in that a surface temperature of the UV ray-emitting light source is not more than 60°C.
>
> Leenders et al. teaches that to get the high quality printed image, ink jet image forming method includes the exposing steps, wherein a surface temperature of the UV ray- emitting light source is from 40°C to 160°C (column: 11, line: 5-10; line: 17-25). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the image forming method of Cleary et al. by the aforementioned teaching of Leenders et al. in order to have a high quality printed image."

Applicants respectfully disagree. The description does not refer to the surface temperature of the UV ray-emitting source as stated in the rejection.

The description of column: 11, line: 5-25 of Leenders (`173) discloses that

> "After the deposition of the ink image(s) the ink receiving material is preferably subjected to a uniform heat-treatment in the temperature range of 40 DEG to

160 DEG C. The time and temperature required for substantially enhancing the optical density in the inked areas depends largely on the type of reactants A and B, their concentration in the ink and coverage in the ink-receiving material. Using the above defined redox-system of light-insensitive silver salt and organic reducing agent(s) generally a heating time in the range of 3 to 60 seconds at a temperature of about 100°C. is sufficient to obtain a desired optical density increase.

The heat may be supplied by means of a hot body, e.g. hot metal roller, contacting the support of the ink-receiving material or may be supplied in the form of hot air, e.g. in a ventilated drying oven, and/or may be supplied in the form of radiant heat that absorbed in the deposited ink markings which for that purpose may contain an infra-red light absorbing dye or pigment. Radiant heating may proceed with flash lamp, e.g. xenon gas discharge lamp, incandescent infra-red light lamp or by means of laser beam."

The descriptions noted above do not mention **a surface temperature of the UV ray-emitting light source nor the limitation that it is not more than 60°C.** The descriptions merely disclose temperatures for **heating the ink receiving material**. Furthermore, the description states that 3 to 60 seconds at 100°C is sufficient to attain the desired optical density.

In other words, it would have been **impossible** to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to reach the an embodiment of claim 1 by combining the '823 with '173

because `173 lacks the important structure that **the surface temperature of the UV ray-emitting light source is not more than 60°C.**

It is therefore submitted that the present claims 1 is not obvious over combination `823 with `173.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the present invention is not shown or suggested by the cited art. Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman
& Chick, P.C.
220 Fifth Ave., 16th Floor
New York, NY 10001-7708
Tel. No. (212) 319-4900
Fax No.: (212) 319-5101
MJC/ld

MARSHALL J. CHICK
Reg. No. 26,853